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Crush'd Underground



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Chapter 1 by Grace K

2000

Planes. They never cease to amaze me. I watch as the beast effortlessly glide above me. I watch as it glides away. The sky ignites in flames - the plane drops out of the sky like a crumb from bread.

I run inside, my scientist father looks up, his glasses perched on his nose.

"Claudia, what is it?" He asks

"Dad, you won't get it, come outside!" I pull his arm, making him drop his coffee. He walks outside and looks at the sky. Luckily, he has nothing to throw, drop or be generally clumsy with. He holds my hand and proudly exclaims.

"I did it!" he continues "The Ozone layer is finally contracting because of the astronomical tension." He concludes his report by licking his finger and holding it up to the air.

"The time is right, Claudia."

"Ok...." I pause. He ushers me into the basement. Then he opens a hidden door, it is covered in dust.

Going back to the planes, I hold that image of the majestic beast gliding across the sky. I wish that I could go back in time to tell my teachers I am grateful for the knowledge I have learnt.

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What about food? I ask

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Dad turns around and laughs at me. Flicks on a light and thousands of rows of vegetables, growing are right in front of me.

"We have enough if you want to get the Masons. They're alright." He says.

"Yes!!! I will, I love you and if I'm not back..." I start. Dad cuts me off.

"You will be, this is just the beginning." He says.

I give him a quick hug, fetch the quiet neighbours that have Maddy and Ryan. Twins. I have grown up with them, I guess that I have to be with them. Mrs Mason answers the door, frazzled.

"Come. Now" I say. She yells for her family, bringing the dog.

For the last time I look up at the sunshine, smile and head into the doom and gloom of the underground. I feel truly Crush'd.

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